Kitty, Sam and the Peacemaker.

By COLIN S. COLLINS.

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When It has been "Sam" and "Kitty" from babyhood it is rather difficult to pass suddenly to the "Mr. Hastings" and "Miss Norwood" stage. Both Sam and Kitty felt the strain, though each took mental obligation to do nothing that in any way might be construed into an overture of friendship,

It had all started innocently enough Kitty on her way to the postoffice encountered Jim Saunders. She regarded Saunders as a persistent pest, but she could not very well refuse his suggestion that they stop in at the drug storand have a glass of soda.

Then it happened that they turned into Belding street in animated conversation, and Sam could not know they had met just around the corner.

Of all the summer visitors to Auburnville Sam disliked Saunders the most, and Kitty knew it. It looked to hlm as though she had deliberately accepted Saunders' attentions to punish him for a trivial quarrel of the night

Kitty was just finishing the last tlny lump of ice cream from the bottom of the tall glass when Sam entered the store with Belle Paulding, Kitty's dearest enemy.

He had bowed stiffly in salutation, and Kitty had responded with a "Good morning, Mr. Hastings," emphasizing the name as sweetly and as coldly as the frozen delicacy she had just consumed.

That had been the start of the trouble, but the end had been slow in coming. That afternoon Kitty went motoring with Saunders, though she hated motor cars, and Belle went buggy riding with Sam to punish Saunders for his imagined disloyalty.

Saunders and Miss Paulding had quickly patched their quarrel up, but Kitty was unyielding, and there was a squareness to Sam's chin that did not argue in favor of pliability of personality.

With ceremonious politeness each strove to show the other how little it mattered, but Kitty cried herself to sleep night after night, and Sam swore softly, but fervently, at what he was pleased to term the foolishness of womankind.

So matters stood when the excursion of the Auburnville cornet band was announced. The boys needed new uniforms, and Dick Potts had promised to learn the euphonium if they would buy him one.

All public spirited citizens purchased tickets. Sam bought two through force of habit and then viciously tore them up, whereby the band profited another 50 cents, for Sam was determined to go on that excursion if only to show that he could go without Kitty.

He had never gone on an excursion alone save once, when Kitty was spending a week with her aunt over in Cadyville, and he had had a miserable time. Now he did not look for enjoyment, but Kitty needn't think he could not go alone if he wanted to.

Much the same sentiment animated Kitty, though she arranged to go with a married sister, and it so happened that they passed over the gangplank er, with the formal greeting that was now customary.

The picnic was held on Paddle island, out in the lake, a favorite picnic ground. A narrow strip of land connected two rough oval extremities that by an abuse of the imagination might be said to resemble a paddle. Bobby Seaton, who was in the primary class, aptly, if improperly, described it as "a peninsula with an island at each end."

As soon as lunch was disposed of the elders settled themselves near the baskets, while the young folk wandered off to either end of the island, followed by a fusillade of injunctions to hurry back the moment the first whistle sounded.

Sam and Kitty followed suit, but Sam made certain that Kitty was headed for the southern blade of the paddle before he started north. It was dreary work sitting all alone on the point, and presently the fresh air and the soft bed of pine needles combined to bring sleep to the worried brain.

It seemed to Sam that he had enjoyed only a brief nap, but by the time he had hunted up the cabin some of the boys had built for use in the duck season and had borrowed the bathing trunks he found there he was in the cool water a few minutes when the warning whistle blew.

Madly he dashed from the water into the hut to find that in that brief interval some one had "chawed" his clothes. His underwear was as full of knots as a snake that had been lunching off a full set of pool balls, his trousers were tled into a true lover's knot that suggested anything but sentiment, and the laces of his shoes offered a good ten minutes of unpicking. Sam was still surveying the damage when the second whistle sounded.

Blow, durn ye!" he cried savagely as he attacked the knots. "If you can't wait for a fellow I'll swim for it. I'm not goin' to make my dee-bu in

He cast a glance of scorn at the infinitesimal swimming trunks and attacked the knots with a haste that verified the old adage as to speed. The boat was a good half mile from shore as he burst through the bushes that grew about the rude landing and shook his fist at the departing steamer.

He was still expressing his opinion of things when there was a rustle in the bushes, and Sam turned to face

Kitty, who walked with a limp and carried a stick in her hand.

"Has the boat gone?" she cried in despair. "I started up so quickly that I wrenched my ankle. I called for help, but no one seemed to hear."

"I was at the other end of the island," explained Sam, who seemed to think that the reproach was directed against him. "I took a nap and didn't realize how long I slept. I took a swim after that, and some kids 'chawed' my clothes. I just got here myself. They'll miss us at the dock and send back for us. Can I fix your

"I'm afraid I shall have to ask your assistance, Mr. Hastings," said Kitty, suddenly mindful of the fact that she was speaking to Sam.

He helped her to a rock and carefully cut away the shoe. Then with the sleeves of his shirt he improvised a bandage that brought relief and noted with satisfaction that the sprain seemed to be slight, since there was little swelling.

"That will have to do until we can get to town," he said as he rose to his feet. "Does it feel any easier, Miss Norwood?"

"Very much, thank you, Mr. Has-

Sam gritted his teeth and mentally issured himself that when a fellow takes the trouble to bind up a girl's ankle and sacrifices his very newest and handsomest shirt for a bandage the least she might do would be to call him "Sam," as of old. He moved stiffly away and took a seat on a bowlder behind her. If she was lonesome she could call him

But Kitty, though she was dreadfully lonesome and a little bit afraid, was too proud to call. Even the faint scent of tobacco that now and then drifted past her on some vagrant breeze was comforting, since it was an indication of Sam's presence, but she would not

speak. Sam gloomily regarded her eloquent shoulders and longed to take her in his arms and comfort her, but he assured himself that It was her place to make the overture. It looked as though the deadlock would continue unbroken when the serpent entered this lonesome Eden.

It was only a tiny gartersnake scarcely twelve inches long, and it was hurrying away from the human intruders as rapidly as possible when Sam spled it. With a long switch he turned its course and headed it past the rock where Kitty was sitting.

The rustling in the grass caught her attention, and, looking down, she spied the wriggling length of green.

With a shrill scream of "Sam!" she struggled to her feet and the next instant was sobbing in her terror, with her arms about his neck.

With cruel ingratitude Sam dispatched his benefactor and lifted the girl in his arms.

"We'll go sit on the dock, Kitty," he suggested. "There are no snakes there. Pretty soon, if help doesn't come, I'll swim over to shore and get a small boat somewhere."

"Some one will come, Sam," she declared. "Anyhow, it's nice here-for

"You bet it is, Kitty," assented Sam as the girl crept close to the protecting circle of his arm.

Then in a torrent of words they had their explanation. It cleared the air wonderfully, and presently Kitty patted the hand that clasped her waist.

"You say you didn't like to take Belle riding," she whispered, "just as though you had all the trouble. I bet you wouldn't like it any better to let Saunders pretend to make love t

"No, I wouldn't," assented Sam honestly as he bent his head to claim another kiss. "Kitty, I'm sorry I killed that snake."

"But it was a snake," explained Kitty, as though that were sufficient reason, even though it was very nice-for a snake.

Testing Electrical Motors.

Electrical power for railroad purposes is still in its infancy, judging from recent experiments by the Long Island railroad. This road is promoting elaborate tests of motors, devices for transmitting currents and every variety of machinery invented to make electricity do work in place of steam.

The Long Island company has a difficult transit tunnel problem to solve. It is wisdom to make the experiments privately and not at the expense of the public. So far the attempt to move heavy trains by electricity for a long distance has not been successful. An electric monorail system is also to be installed near New York shortly for experiments. We may be on the eve of new developments in motoring by rail.

Fortunately the last Thursday in No vember is far enough away from the first Tuesday to enable all hands to think it over and find something in the election results to be thankful for.

Having served a term at pole hunting, the Duke of the Abruzzi will have one familiar road to nowhere when he gets tired of the limelight.

Cruel to think that the big comet is going to be on view just when children have to make believe sleep or be slighted by Santa Claus.

The "zone of death" may be a fallacy in war, as Hudson Maxim says, but it's a "dead sure thing" in politics,

Anyway, prolonged warm weather kept the odor of moth balls out of range a few weeks longer than usual.

He Meant Well.

He meant quite well.

It was perfectly well meant,
But the elephant just grabbed him
And then slung him through the

In the ground he made a dent— Oh, a big one!—where he fell. He put pepper in the peanuts, But he meant quite well.

He meant quite well. He was only rather green
And indulged himself in smoking
In the powder magazine.
He has never since been seen,
But the sexton tolled his knell, And his family wore mourning, For he meant quite well.

Another Mistake Corrected. "There's no truth in these jokes about summer girls not remembering the fellows they were engaged to." "No?"

"No. I just reminded Miss Flirtgirl that we were engaged at the seashore, and she remembered it perfectly."-Washington Herald.

> The Passing of the Pet. Mary had a little pup. His fleas were black as jet. If him they had not eaten up She might have had him yet.

Why did the fleas the pup love so? Oh, that is hard to guess! But as they thrived he had to grow Just less and less and less.

The fact of being so bereft Made Mary's spirits flag, For of him she had only left His collar and his tag. —Indianapolis News.

Awful.

The couple were of the color of the ace of spades. "You charge your husband with having struck you repeatedly with his fists?" asked the judge of the woman.

"Yes, your honor," she answered.
"Six months!" shouted the judge. "These black hand outrages have got to cease!"-Lippincott's Magazine.

Ol' King Oysteh. Ol' King Oysteh cum to town— Stew him up en fry him brown-Hurrah foh King Oysteh! De li'l' neck clam am rich en sweet, But ol' King Oysteh can't be beat— Ah 'clah he's fit foh kings to eat—

Hurrah foh King Oysteh!
—Detroit Tribune In Pursuit of Cleanliness.

I was getting ready for a morning's

fishing and set my minnow pail on a bench. Harold's inquiring nose was soon thrust over the edge. "Why, papa," be cried, "these fish are all rushing around taking a bath."

Woman's Home Companion.

The Search. I thought that happiness was having

money,
And, like the busy bee that gathers honey,
I worked and tolled and got a goodly Now happiness, I find, is having—more!
—New York Life.

A Fair Remnant. Stella-The word is that hips must

Bella-Dear me, I've already parted from my appendix and given my hand

The Stuttering Train. There once was a stuttering train Who never could learn to talk plain. He said, "I choo-choo"— What he chose no one knew, For he never went on to explain.

-Woman's Home Companion

All Surrendered. Howell-You should stand up for your rights.

Powell-I haven't any, my boy. I have been married a good many years -Bohemian Magazine.

So They Were Married. Said the bachelor to the widow:
"I'll prove my love by deeds.
I'll gladly give up my cigars
If you'll give up your weeds."
—Detroit Tribune

By the Back Door. Host-But if your intentions are real ly serious, why do you want Beatrix to think you are only flirting? Parker-So she'll grow to care for me.-Brooklyn Life.

Modern. Mary had a little lamb.

Its fleece was up to date—
Ninc-tenths of it was cotton waste; The rest was underweight.

-New York Life.

"Rubber!" Teacher-India rubber is composed of carbon and hydrogen. Small Boy-Gee! It's no wonder that a fellow gets a pain in his neck.-New

Might Make a "Mash." She used to drop her soft brown eye
When Spooner used to pass,
But dared not drop her hard brown eye, For that, alas, was glass!

-Kansas City Times.

Found by the Child. Mabel-Mamma, what do those row of little stars mean? "Good heavens! George, the child's found that book!"-Brooklyn Life.

> Her True Meaning. When a woman declares She has nothing to wear What she really means is She has nothing to air.
>
> —St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

As to Traveling. "Yes, sir. When I travel I want the very best.'

"So do I. That's why I always stay at home."-New York Life.

Generally Admitted. Whate'er may be said of a sweetheart,
"Too giddy," "too old" or "too new,"
There's one point admits of no question—
She can't be "too good to be true."
—Philadelphia Press.

Duplicates. Stella-Did she get duplicate wed ding presents? Bella-Yes; the same as at her first marriage.-New York Sun.

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